

Localizations, *Revue Mensuelle*, Oct. 10.—ARANGO, Considerations on Spiritualism, *Cronica Med. Quirurg de la Habana*, October.—WIGHT, How shall we Interpret the Deviation of the Head of the Incurable Epileptic? *Med. and Surg. Reporter*, Nov. 20.—LANDER-BRUNTON, Indigestion as a Cause of Nervous Depression, *Practitioner*, Nov.—BOSWORTH, Bilateral Paralysis of the Abductor Muscles of the Larynx, *N. Y. Med. Jour.*, Nov., 1880.—EVERTS, Diagnosis of Insanity, *Am. Pract.*, Nov.—PETRONE, Contribution on the Subacute Arthropathia Connected with Brain Lesions, *La Sperimentale*, Nov.—WOOD, Contribution to our Knowledge of Nervous Syphilis, *Am. Jour. Med. Sci.*, Oct.—GRAY, Diagnostic Significance of a Dilated and Mobile Pupil in Epilepsy, *Ibid.*—CORNWELL, A Case of Basedow's Disease Terminating in Total Loss of Sight from Inflammation of the Cornea, *Ibid.*—KIERNAN, Insanity, *Gaillard's Med. Jour.*, Nov.—ALVISI, The Speech in Insanity, *Rivista Clinica di Bologna*, Oct.

c.—THERAPEUTICS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND MIND.

INFLUENCE OF BROMIDES ON THE CEREBRAL TEMPERATURE.—Prof. Edward Maragliano reports, *Rivista Clinica di Bologna*, Oct., the results of a series of ten experiments on the effect of bromide of potash on the cerebral (cranial) temperature, from which he draws the following conclusions :

1. Bromide of potassium in single doses of three to five grammes gives rise to an increase of cerebral temperature.
2. This increase averages about one degree Centigrade.
3. It commences to appear a few minutes after the taking of the drug, reaches its maximum at the end of one hour and a half to two hours and a half, and decreases at the end of another two or three hours.
4. Contemporaneously with this rise of cerebral temperature, occurs a very slight increase (two- or three-tenths of a degree) in the axilla.

These observations contradict the previously reported action of bromides, but they seem to have been carefully made and are deserving of attention, if for no other reason than that of the reputation and authority of their reporter.

ÆSTHESIOGENIC VIBRATIONS.—M. Romain Vigouroux recalls, in *Le Progrès Médical*, Sept. 5th, some experiments performed by him, in which the hypothesis of Schiff, that molecular vibrations, transmitted by contiguity, produced a concussion or shock to the nerves, and that the æsthesiogenic effects of various metals applied to the skin were due to such vibrations, differing in rhythm and amplitude according to the substance employed, was suggested and anticipated. His first experiments were made in 1878, in which he employed a tuning-fork *u t 3*, introducing the hand of the patient into the sounding-box of the instrument. These experiments were noticed at the time in the *Progrès Médical* of that year, page 747, and the conclusion was deduced "that the vibrations of a tuning-fork have precisely the same physiological action as metals, magnets, and electricity."

Now, reviewing the subject and establishing his own priority in the experimental investigation, M. Vigouroux concludes that this theory of vibrations affords a means of comparison, but not an explanation of the phenomena of metallotherapy. He still holds to this opinion even after reading the memoirs of Schiff and Maggiorani.

NERVE-STRETCHING IN ATAXIA.—Two cases are now on record, one by Langenbuch, the other by Esmarch, in which nerve-stretching was resorted to as a remedy against the intense pains of locomotor ataxia. In both, the success was complete, not merely as far as the pain was concerned, but as a matter of great astonishment, the well-developed disease itself—locomotor ataxia—was cured.

Encouraged by these unexpected observations, Dr. Erlenmeyer attempted nerve-stretching in a case of tabes of two years' standing. (*Centralblatt f. Nervenheilk'de*, Nov., 1880.) The patient, a man of 39 years of age, had the disease in a well-developed form, especially the atactic symptoms, though but little pain at the time. He had previously had a hard chancre, but no secondary symptoms. Specific treatment had been employed without result. At two successive operations the sciatic nerves were exposed and violently stretched, and the wounds dressed antiseptically. Nevertheless, the wound of the left thigh was infected by the fæces; erysipelas set in, and it required over four weeks before the wound was healed. The success of the operation was almost wholly negative. The only improvement gained was an increase in the strength of the legs. But none of the atactic symptoms were